

AMENDMENT(S) TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing an orthopaedic reamer, comprising the steps of:

forming a shell having a cutting face;

cutting a plurality of openings in said shell, each said opening defining a cutting edge of a

5 tooth and a pair of relief cuts extending transverse from opposite ends of said cutting edge, each said relief cut terminating at a base end; and

bending each said cutting tooth edge in a single bending operation about an axis extending between said base ends, each said cutting edge having a shape after said bending step which is predefined by said cutting step, wherein said cutting face has a concave shape and each
10 said cutting edge extends radially inwardly from said cutting face.

2. (Original) The method of manufacturing an orthopaedic reamer of claim 1, wherein said cutting edge has a shape after said bending step which is different than a shape of said cutting edge after said cutting step.

3. (Original) The method of manufacturing an orthopaedic reamer of claim 2, wherein each said cutting edge has a shape after said bending step which is one of curved and straight as viewed from a leading edge of said cutting tooth.

4-5 (Canceled)

6. (Original) The method of manufacturing an orthopaedic reamer of claim 1, wherein

said cutting step includes forming a clearance opening adjacent a leading edge of each said cutting edge.

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7. (Original) The method of manufacturing an orthopaedic reamer of claim 6, wherein each said clearance opening is a generally hemi-circular opening.

8. (Currently Amended) A method of forming cutting teeth in an orthopaedic reamer, the orthopaedic reamer including a shell having a cutting face, said method comprising the steps of:

5 cutting a plurality of openings in the shell, each said opening defining a cutting edge of a tooth and a pair of relief cuts extending transverse from opposite ends of said cutting edge, each said relief cut terminating at a base end; and

bending each said cutting ~~tooth~~ edge in a single bending operation about an axis extending between said base ends, each said cutting edge having a shape after said bending step which is predefined by said cutting step, wherein said cutting face has a concave shape and each

10 said cutting edge extends radially inwardly from said cutting face.

9. (Original) The method of forming cutting teeth of claim 8, wherein said cutting edge has a shape after said bending step which is different than a shape of said cutting edge after said cutting step.

10. (Original) The method of forming cutting teeth of claim 9, wherein each said cutting edge has a shape after said bending step which is one of curved and straight as viewed from a leading edge of said cutting tooth.

11-12 (Cancelled)

13. (Original) The method of forming cutting teeth of claim 8, wherein said cutting step includes forming a clearance opening adjacent a leading edge of each said cutting edge.

14. (Original) The method of forming cutting teeth of claim 13, wherein each said clearance opening is a generally hemi-circular opening.

15. (Currently Amended) An orthopaedic reamer, comprising:
a shell having a cutting face;
a plurality of cutting teeth formed in said shell, each said cutting tooth having a cutting edge extending from said cutting face, and a pair of relief cuts extending transverse from opposite ends of said cutting edge, each said relief cut terminating at a base end, each said cutting tooth bent about an axis extending between said base ends, wherein said cutting face has a concave shape and each said cutting edge extends radially inwardly from said cutting face.

16. (Original) The orthopaedic reamer of claim 15, wherein each said tooth includes a clearance opening positioned adjacent a leading edge of said cutting edge.

17. (Original) The orthopaedic reamer of claim 16, wherein said clearance opening is a generally circular opening.

18. (Original) The orthopaedic reamer of claim 15, wherein each said tooth has a cantilever arrangement extending from said axis.